



MINUTES

CITY OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023 – 5:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 100 EAST CAROLINA AVENUE

Mayor/Council:

Mayor Hancock
Mayor Pro-Tem Andrews
Councilmember Braddock
Councilmember Caldwell
Councilmember DeLaine
Councilmember Mack
Councilmember McGee

Executive Staff:

City Manager Moore
City Clerk Skipper
Deputy City Clerk Crenshaw
Parks & Recreation Director Bedard
Public Services Director Bethea
Business Services Director Brown
Tourism & Communications Dir Brown

Attorney – Danny Crowe, via phone
Press - None

PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CODE SECTION 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2023, AND DULY POSTED AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 100 EAST CAROLINA AVENUE AND ON HARTSVILLESC.GOV. CITY HALL IS AN ACCESSIBLE FACILITY, FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 843-383-3018.

Mayor Hancock called the meeting to order at 5:31pm and asked Councilmember Mack to lead in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SC CODE FOIA SECTION 30-4-70(a)(2) FOR RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE RELATING TO BUSINESS LICENSE STATUTE AND OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE - APPROVED.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

MOTION: TO EXIT AND VERIFY THAT ONLY THE ITEMS STATED IN THE MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION WERE DISCUSSED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION - APPROVED.

Motion: McGee; Second: Caldwell; Carried: All ayes.

UPON RETURNING TO OPEN SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MOTION TO WAIVE READING OF AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2022, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – APPROVED.

Motion: Braddock; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

PRESENTATIONS

Public Comments

Clyde Stuckey, 310 Law Street: expressed concerns about recent changes to the yard debris program. Changes may be a time savings for City staff but increases the time citizens spend bagging leaves. Asked Council to consider a vacuum truck to pick up leaves.

Councilmember McGee informed him the City previously had a leaf vacuum truck but sold it due to bricks and debris other than leaves in yard debris piles damaging the truck.

Mayor Hancock thanked Mr. Stuckey for addressing Council. The first year of the new yard debris program is an introductory year and we will be monitoring it for areas to improve.

Marva Serrano, 222 Wilkes Circle: thanked Mayor and Council for recognizing her sister, Mildred Burno, by proclaiming every August 29th "Mildred Burno Day" in honor of Hartsville's angel among us. Requesting Angel Recognition Award program in her sister's honor to annually recognize someone for their dedication and service to the community. Requested Mayor Hancock follow-up with her for guidance on an appropriate entity or group to approach with the idea.

Ms. Serrano also requested assistance with the deteriorating condition of Wilkes Circle. If the street is not state or city owned, the residents would like to find out the names of the property owners so it can be repaired.

Mayor Hancock thanked Ms. Serrano and will follow-up with her. City Manager Moore will research ownership of Wilkes Circle.

MANAGER UPDATE

Yard Debris Discussion

City Manager Moore discussed issues experienced previously with the leaf vacuum truck. Council can consider putting in fines and penalties for residents who leave debris in leaf piles. During the upcoming budget process Council can consider vacuum truck and fines for next year fiscal year.

Councilmember McGee mentioned idea of installing air burners at the Public Service site to condense yard debris into smaller loads to transport to the landfill. Suggested considering different options such as burners, vacuum truck and composting during the budget process.

City Manager Moore agreed Council can review options during the budget process. Staff will continue to monitor and measure the new yard debris program.

City Manager Moore reminded Council of upcoming events:

- Hometown Legislative Action Day 2023 is Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at the Columbia Marriott. There will be no February 7, 2023, Worksession to allow Mayor and Councilmembers to attend.
- Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government is Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at the Columbia Marriott.
- Byerly Foundation Celebration Breakfast on Friday, January 27, 2023, from 9:30am to 11am at Byerly Foundation, 101 North Fifth Street, Hartsville
- Darlington County Joint Municipal Councils, County Council, Board of Education & Legislative Delegation Dinner Meeting on Monday, January 30th. The Board of Education will host. The time and location to be announced soon.
- City Council Strategic Planning Session tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2023, from 9am to 2pm at The Edition.
- Budget preparation meetings coming soon after the Strategic Planning Session.

HPDC Owned Properties

Mayor Hancock recused himself from discussion and exited Council Chambers due to a potential conflict of interest.

City Manager Moore spoke with thirteen different groups about the request for letters of intent on the 10-acre development by Hartsville Public Development Corporation (HPDC). The HPDC received no bids or letters of intent for the project for a variety of reasons. The HPDC owns the property, but the City makes the loan payments. A plan to move forward is needed. Repaying the lender in full would require spending a large portion of the general fund balance. The better option is to extend the loan term at a fixed interest rate. This allows time to regroup, shelf the current plan and develop a plan to best benefit the area by looking to the left and right of the property to determine the best fit. Recommends involving citizens, local developers, realtors, etc. to develop a new plan. Suggested Council formalize desire for new plan moving forward in a resolution to the HPDC.

Councilmember Mack agrees with urgency to restart with a new plan. Expressed importance of transparency when taxpayer dollars are spent.

Councilmember Braddock sees frontage on Fourth Street as an asset to the development. Our vision of the development needs to be more flexible to get buy-in.

Councilmember McGee provided example of Hammond Ferry development in North Augusta where developers were involved from the start. Recommends let HPDC get stakeholders involved to come up with a new plan that works.

City Manager Moore agreed presenting Council's ideas to developers and asking developers to partner, give feedback and submitting ideas for the project. This first attempt was a bold one. The new plan needs to follow a formula that works.

CONSENT AGENDA - Received as Information Only

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 4446: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPENDIX A - ZONING ARTICLE VI (A) - CLUSTER HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS SECTION 7. MINIMUM SPACE BETWEEN PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Manager Moore explained this change allows smaller distance between homes in cluster housing developments.

Open/Close Public Hearing (state name and address for record) – None.

Approval of Final Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Andrews; Second: Caldwell;

Carried: All voting aye, except DeLaine voting nay.

Discussion:

Councilmember DeLaine asked for explanation of smaller space.

City Manager Moore explained this change allows a smaller side yard between homes in cluster housing developments. The change applies only to detached homes in this type of development; does not apply to single family housing in other neighborhoods.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 01-23-01: APPROVAL OF THE CREATION OF THE MAIN STREET HARTSVILLE (MSH) ADVISORY BOARD AND APPROVAL OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MAIN STREET HARTSVILLE DISTRICT- APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Caldwell; Carried: All ayes.

RESOLUTION 01-23-02: APPROVAL FOR HARTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (SLED) FOR ACCESS TO THE AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER SYSTEM – APPROVED.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

Discussion:

City Manager Moore explained this is a renewal of the MOU for the license plate reader system access.

RESOLUTION 01-23-03: APPROVAL FOR HARTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – APPROVED.

Motion: Mack; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

Discussion:

City Manager Moore explained this is a renewal of the MOU with the newly elected Chesterfield County Sheriff Streater.

RESOLUTION 01-23-04: APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE TIME OF THE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

Discussion:

City Manager Moore explained approval of this resolution moves the time of the February meeting from 5:30pm to 10am to hear presentation on redistricting from state personnel.

RESOLUTION 01-23-05: APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) AGREEMENTS WITH COKER UNIVERSITY FOR JOINT GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO) FOR HISTORIC STRUCTURE PRESERVATION PROJECTS – APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Caldwell; Carried: All ayes.

Discussion:

Councilmember McGee asked how this allows the City to “ensure” preservation of historic buildings.

City Manager Moore explained as a Certified Local Government the City will be administrators of the grant. We hold ultimate responsibility as we are ensuring the work is done.

Dan Buryj, Coker University Vice President of Admissions, further explained Coker University agrees to provide all documentation and to participate in audits. Coker University will report to the City and the City will report to State.

Jessica Cloud, Coker University Vice President of Advancement, clarified Coker University has seven historic properties eligible for grants. This partnership with the City allows Coker to apply for grants preserve and restore the historic buildings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SC CODE FOIA SECTION 30-4- 70(a)(1)(5) FOR DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO A POTENTIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY AT THE INDUSTRIAL PARK AND DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE MAIN STREET HARTSVILLE ADVISORY BOARD – APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Caldwell; Carried: All ayes.

MOTION: TO EXIT AND VERIFY THAT ONLY THE ITEMS STATED IN THE MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION WERE DISCUSSED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION – APPROVED.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

UPON RETURNING TO OPEN SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

RESOLUTION 01-23-06: APPOINTMENTS TO MAIN STREET HARTSVILLE (MSH) ADVISORY BOARD.

Motion: McGee to appoint to MSH Board with terms expiring June 30, 2026: Lauren Baker, Brad Carr, Kat Davis and with terms expiring June 30, 2025: Chelsea Henry and Brandi Wheeler; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

INFORMATION ONLY

a. Calendars and Other Items

ADJOURNMENT without objection at 8:15pm.

Casey Hancock, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sherron L. Skipper, City Clerk